Schemes for linking of rivers

2570. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any schemes for linking of river systems contemplated under the Eighth Five Year Plan for optimising the use of water resources available ; and

(b) if so, what are the details and the cost thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI V.C. SHUKLA) : (a) and (b) A National Perspective for Water Resources Development prepared by the Government envisages inter-linkages between the major rivers of the Peninsular region and between the Himalayan rivers separately for transfer of water from water rich basin to water deficit basin, for optimum utilisation of water resources. The National Water Development Agency (NWDA) under the Ministry of Water Resources has been entrusted the work of firming up these proposals. A total of 36 water transfer links, 17 under Peninsular component and 19 under Himalayan component have been identified by NWDA. While office studies of 8 links under Peninsular component have been completed, studies of balance jinks have been included in the VIII Plan. Also, field investigations of 9 links of Peninsular component and 3 links of Himalayan component have been included in the VIII Plan Programme of the Agency. In the absence of detailed project reports aspects like cost involved, benefits envisaged outlays required and completion schedule cannot be quantified.

Pamba-Achankavil Vaigai Project

2571. SHRI S. MADHAVAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received the pre-feasibility report of Pamba Achankavil Vaigai Link ject;

(b) if so, whether it would be placed on the Table of the House;

(c) What would be the additional acreage that can be brought under cultivation under this project in Tamil Nadu and Kerala; and

(d) what would be the cost of this project?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI V.C. SHUKLA) : (a) and (b) The National Water Development Agency under the Ministry of Water Resources has, after office studies, prepared a preliminary feasibility report of the Pamba-Achankavil Vaigai link. It is subject to change based on field survey data and comments and observations of the concerned State Governments. There is no proposal to place preliminary feasibility studies on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d) The preliminary feasibility studies have indicated that at an estimated cost of Rs. 668 crores, the project provides one lakh hectares irrigation benefit in Tamil Nadu and 16.9 M.W. Power to Kerala.

Share Cost of Sardar Sarovar project

2572. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL:
SHRI CHHOTUBHAI PATEL:
SHRI JITENDRABHAI LABHSHANKER BHATT:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there are arrears in payment of share cost of Sardar Sarovar